

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 565

By Hackworth

A RESOLUTION to thank the Tennessee Valley Authority for erecting wind turbine electric power generators in Anderson County to provide clean renewable energy for consumers in the Tennessee Valley.

WHEREAS, the energy needs of the world in general and of the United States in particular are growing at an increasing pace; and

WHEREAS, little unused hydroelectric capacity remains, fossil fuels are non-renewable, and along with nuclear power generation, require expensive technology to control emissions or to safely store spent nuclear fuel; and

WHEREAS, wind power is a clean, renewable power source only recently being exploited to provide electric power; recently the Tennessee Valley Authority erected fifteen new wind turbines to join the three existing ones on Buffalo Mountain in Anderson County, the southeast's first large-scale commercial wind park; and

WHEREAS, the new turbines are 260 feet tall, with blades 135 feet long and generate enough energy to power more than 3,500 homes in the Tennessee Valley; and

WHEREAS, in 2003, TVA and Invenergy signed a 20-year power-purchase agreement to add 27 megawatts of generating capacity to the two megawatts already provided by the three original wind turbines in the Buffalo Mountain Wind Park in Anderson County; and

WHEREAS, each of the fifteen larger wind turbines added in the expansion is capable of generating 1.8 megawatts of electricity in contrast to the generating capacity of 660 kilowatts each of the original three; the new turbines, which were constructed and are owned and operated by Invenergy TN LCC, began operating in December of 2004; and

WHEREAS, TVA Director Skila Harris said of the project, "The Buffalo Mountain wind farm has grown from three to 18 turbines in response to increased demand for renewable

energy by Valley consumers, and it clears the way for TVA and distributors of TVA power to offer Green Power Switch to more people. When you choose renewable energy through Green Power Switch, you are helping support sustainable resources and renewable technology development in the Tennessee Valley”; and

WHEREAS, before the addition of new wind turbines to TVA’s renewable energy portfolio, wind power was the source of 14 percent of TVA’s green power capacity; now wind power accounts for about 73 percent of Green Power Switch, the green-power product offered to consumers by participating distributors of TVA power; and

WHEREAS, currently, 76 local power companies offer the renewable-energy option to consumers throughout the Tennessee Valley; residential and commercial customers can sign up for green power by calling their local power distributor or from the Green Power Switch Web site; and

WHEREAS, Invenergy is a developer, owner and operator of power-generation and energy-delivery assets; its mission is to recognize and execute on energy-asset transaction opportunities with significant value-creation potential. Using a strategy of active development and acquisitions, Invenergy is building a portfolio of diversified energy assets; and

WHEREAS, in increasing the availability of clean, renewable wind-produced electric energy to its customers in the Tennessee Valley, TVA has taken positive steps to address future power needs of the Valley and the nation, efforts which merit our gratitude and approbation; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we express our appreciation to the directors and staff of the Tennessee Valley Authority for their efforts to increase the availability of green power in the Tennessee Valley through the addition of wind turbine generators in the Buffalo Mountain wind farm.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we offer them our heartfelt thanks, encourage them to exploit other sources of sustainable power, and wish them every success in their future endeavors in meeting the energy needs of the Tennessee Valley and the nation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be sent to each member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority with this final clause omitted from such copy.